Mr. Joseph Pettah.—The Hon'ble Member in answer to a previous supplementary question has stated that the low price of Rs. 175 my be due to the fact that the property has an encumbrance on it. How does it affect the Government? In the case of revenue recovery the Government will have priority.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon —The Government cannot split the property. Suppose a property is mortgaged for Rs. 100. If that property is sub-divided and a little plot is sold for revenue recovery, the mortgagee can sell that plot for Rs. 100.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—When a sale is conducted by a revenue authority, the purchaser gets the property free of all such encumbrances. Is it not?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—In selling that plot it must be sold subject to theencumbrance.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Is it not better to split the property and sell it than selling it as a whole?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Where fragmentation is possible it is done.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Are not the people put to great hardship by selling the property as a whole?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I should think that the hardship is more imaginary than real.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—For realising Rs. 100 there is a sale for Rs. 165, for realising Rs. 62 there is a sale for Rs. 115, for Rs. 20 there is a sale for Rs. 150 and for Rs. 49 there is a sale for Rs. 151. I should submit that these are big differences.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—On a point of order, Sir. I pray for a ruling on a question that I raised on a former occasion. In the absence of the member who has put a question it has been ruled that supplementary questions should not be put and therefore I pray for a ruling on another point, that such questions should not be printed in the proceedings.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If a question is asked and an answer is given which is completely a misrepresentation of facts and if the Hon'ble Member who put the question is absent, what is the method for the House to correct the statement?

President.—The member who puts the question is expected to be present when it comes up before the House.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—It will form part of the proceedings.

Arrest of volunteers of the Cochin Famine Relief Association.

94. **Mr. K. G. Nayar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

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(1) how many volunteers of the Cochin Famine Relief Association were arrested by the Police and under what circumstances ;

(2) under whose orders were they arrested ;

(3) has any case been registered by the police against them ;

(4) are there any cases pending in the Magistrate's Court against those volunteers;

(5) how may of them are now in remand in the Central Jail at Viyyur ;

(6) are any special facilities afforded to them in the Jail ;

(7) is there any charge of sedition against any of these volunteers ;

(8) has there been any conviction by any court of any of those volunteers ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) 61 persons, of whom 3 were released on bail. The circumstances which led to their arrest were as follows—

The Association began to hold public meetings and carry on its activities some months ago. From the outset their aim was to commit some breach of the law. Their idea was said to be to cut down trees in public places or commit offences against the Abkari Regulation or do some such thing. For a long time Government were reluctant to curtail liberty of speech, but found as time went on that the Samgham was bent on causing trouble. A good many of the members of the Samgham were deep in debt and ruin was staring them in the face. They were misleading many young men and were going to enlist volunteers. They were planning some demonstration and violation of law to synchronise with the Viceregal visit. Those entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining peace and order were therefore forced to take action. At first a prohibitory order was issued by the District Magistrate directing a few of the ring-leaders not to make such speeches. Even then they had not the good sense to alter their 'break-the-law' programme and proceed along proper and legitimate lines. On the contrary they openly defied and set at naught the District Magistrate's order and issued notices proclaiming to the whole world that they were going to disobey the order on a particular day. This open and deliberate defiance of law and authority being a matter affecting the public tranquillity, the meeting itself was prohibited to be held by an order issued by the local Magistrate. This too they openly and deliberately defied and violated. This situation was becoming serious. These are the circumstances under which the arrests were made. There was also a procession of these people one day along the public road through the heart of the Town and in the front of the public offices at Cranganur. Their slogans and Ki Jais including "കൊച്ചി ഭരണ നാശനമാകട്ടെ" were such as to

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affect the public tranquillity, and it certainly affected the law-abiding citizens of the Town. The authorities were very patient and even long-suffering, but were forced to take action.

(2) Some under-warrents issued by the Cranganur Magistrate and others by the Police, the offences being cognizable by the Police.

(3) Yes; the crime numbers of the cases registered against them are 26 to 29 and 33 of 1109 of the Cranganur Police Station and 20/09 of Ernakulam Police Station.

(4) No cases are now pending against them in any of the Magistrate's Courts.

(5) None at present.

(6) Of the 37 under-trial prisoners, Mr. K. M. Ibrahim was classified as a special class prisoner and given all the concessions prescribed by the Jail Rules for a special class prisoner. Others were of the ordinary class and were allowed only such amenities as the rules permitted.

(7) There was no specific charge of sedition against any of the volunteers.

(8) No.

Appointment of Mr. Whatmore in the Stoneware Factory at Chalakkudi.

95. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether Mr. Whatmore has been appointed in the Stoneware Factory at Chalakkudi ; when was he appointed ;

(b) how long was he experimenting there ;

(c) how much amount was given him during the experimental stage ;

(d) how far has his experiment proved successful ;

(e) what are the various articles manufactured by him ;

(f) how do they compare in quality and price with similar articles manufactured outside Cochin ;

(g) for how many years is his appointment ;

(h) has any agreement been made between Government and Mr. Whatmore ;

(i) if so, will a copy of the agreement be placed on the table of the House ;

(j) has any provision been made in the agreement for giving necessary training to Cochinites for running the factory when Mr. Whatmore goes away ;

(k) if so, what is the provision ;

(l) whether the Government has consulted any other Government who have appointed foreign experts in such concerns regarding the terms of agreement ;

(m) has the Government come to know that in Mysore when such agreements are made one of the terms is that last

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